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(21) International Application Number: <b>PCT/US00/02043</b> (22) International Filing Date: <b>21 January 2000 (21.01.00)</b> (30) Priority Data: <b>60/116,555</b> <b>21 January 1999 (21.01.99)</b> <b>US</b> (71) Applicant (for all designated States except US): <b>UNIVERSAL MUSIC GROUP [US/US]; 70 Universal City Plaza, Universal City, CA 91608 (US).</b> (72) Inventor; and (75) Inventor/Applicant (for US only): <b>GALUTEN, Albhy [US/US]; 525 West Rustic Road, Santa Monica, CA 90402 (US).</b> (74) Agents: <b>YANNEY, Pierre, R. et al.; Darby &amp; Darby P.C., 805 Third Avenue, New York, NY 10022-7513 (US).</b>			(81) Designated States: <b>AE, AL, AM, AT, AU, AZ, BA, BB, BG, BR, BY, CA, CH, CN, CR, CU, CZ, DE, DK, DM, EE, ES, FI, GB, GD, GE, HR, HU, ID, IL, IN, IS, JP, KE, KG, KP, KR, KZ, LC, LK, LR, LS, LT, LU, LV, MD, MG, MK, MN, MW, MX, NO, NZ, PL, PT, RO, RU, SD, SE, SG, SI, SK, SL, TJ, TM, TR, TT, TZ, UA, UG, US, UZ, VN, YU, ZA, ZW, ARIPO patent (GH, GM, KE, LS, MW, SD, SL, SZ, TZ, UG, ZW), Eurasian patent (AM, AZ, BY, KG, KZ, MD, RU, TJ, TM), European patent (AT, BE, CH, CY, DE, DK, ES, FI, FR, GB, GR, IE, IT, LU, MC, NL, PT, SE), OAPI patent (BF, BJ, CF, CG, CI, CM, GA, GN, GW, ML, MR, NE, SN, TD, TG).</b>  <b>Published</b> <i>With international search report.</i>

(54) Title: **METHOD AND SYSTEM FOR TRANSMITTING MEDIA INFORMATION THROUGH A NETWORK**

## (57) Abstract

A method for transmitting or distributing media information using Handle data structures (100) in e-mails or chat sessions. When a user sends a Handle (100) by e-mail (218) or active chat session to another user, the recipient is able to access the same media the sender accessed over the network. The Handle (100) can be used to govern and limit the use of the media by the recipient, for example, subject to payment. Furthermore the present invention can synchronize the rendition of the media at multiple locations for multiple users such that each user experiences the media at the same time regardless of the location.

